

Government Approved Mask

Here's a step-by-step tutorial on how to sew a government approved cloth mask, keeping the issued guidelines in mind.

Material Required

Fabric for the mask of 9 inches long and 7 inches wide
2 strips for tie up of 20 inches long and 1.5 inches wide on fold

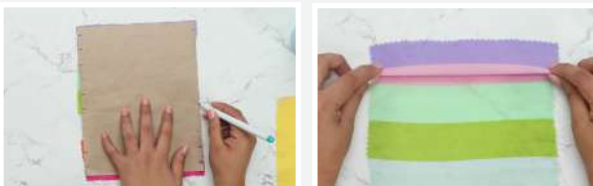
2 strips of binding 5 inches long and 1.5 inches wide
Template for the mask which you can download from www.ushasew.com

Marker

Thread

Pins

And Iron



Lay the thoroughly cleaned mask fabric right side up (The government recommends washing the mask cloth in boiling salt water for 5 minutes) Place the downloaded mask template from our website www.ushasew.com on the fabric.

You must have noticed, the template has notches on the side, take a pen and mark these notches on the fabric inside the template line. Remove the template, the fabric should look like this. These markings will help you create the folds of the mask.

Double fold the fabric from top as shown basis the markings you have created on the fabric and pin the crease line, the crease line should come on the third marking from the top.

Pick the cloth at the fourth marking and fold it towards the sixth mark and pin the crease line. Repeat the same process at the seventh mark and bring it to the ninth and Pin the crease line.

Now take two strips that are 5 inches long and 1.5 inches wide and place them vertically at the two ends of the masks as shown, and pin them at the center. These two strips will help you lock the folds without constricting the fabric's movement and secure your pleats. Pin them at the center.



Time to stitch this all together. For sewing the strips to the mask, you need to set the Pattern Selector Dial to A for straight stitching and Stitch length to 2.5. Keep the thread tension at 4. Carefully stitch the strip to the mask, remove the pins as you make your way towards the end. Similarly stitch the other strip to the other end.

Your mask should now look like this. Take the unstitched side of the strip and fold it backwards like shown. Flip the mask and further fold the strip twice. Now stitch the folded crease line onto the mask. Cut the excess thread and repeat the same procedure on the other side. Cut off the remaining length of the strips on all four sides to align it with the pleated mask fabric. Your stitches should look like this.

Iron your mask to perfect your seam lines and give it a neater finish. Now, we move on to create the tie up strip of the mask. Take the two long strips. Fold the strip inwards from both sides as shown so that they meet in the middle and iron them. This will keep them in place. Continue doing this throughout the strip. The strip should look like this.

Further do a single fold at the intersection where the two sides meet and iron the strip to keep the fold in place. Do the same with the other strip.

We now have to fold the prepared strip into half and mark the half point. Repeat the process for the other strip.

Next, take your mask and fold it into half as shown and mark the half point at the top as well as the bottom. The half points on the mask and strip have to be matched together.

Once done, open the single fold of the strip and place the mask in the Centre at the intersection point so that when you fold the strip again it hugs the mask, both at the back and the front. Pin the strip to the mask, at the top as well as the bottom.

To give the ear loops a neater finish, take the raw edges of the strip and fold it inwards into the single fold like shown in the video and pin it.

Repeat this for all edges. Take your mask to your machine and start by stitching the folded edge of the strip. Continue sewing till you reach the other end of the strip, remove the pins as you go. Don't forget to stitch these small edges.

Continue the process for the other strip. Cut any excess threads. And your mask is now ready. Wasn't that simple.

You must ensure that your mask covers your mouth and your nose properly and there are no gaps between it and your face. While wearing the mask ensure that the side facing you should show pleats facing downwards. Hope you liked this video. All the best for your creation, and stay safe.